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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/016,831	12/12/2001	Mark Andrew Boys	P1364	7488

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EXAMINER

HEWITT II, CALVIN L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3621

DATE MAILED: 02/02/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/016,831

Applicant(s)

BOYS, MARK ANDREW

Examiner

Calvin L Hewitt II

Art Unit

3621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3 and 15 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Status of Claims

1. Claims 1-24 have been examined.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 3 and 15 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form.

Claim 1 is directed to a system for making direct donations that comprises a server, a data store and software to facilitate viewing of information. Claim 3, which depends from claim 1, recites an IVR. Claim 3 is in improper dependent form because using an IVR a user does not “view” information. Claim 15 is also objected as claim 13, from which it depends, recites language similar to claim 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 is directed to a system for making direct donations that comprises a server, a data store and software to facilitate viewing of information. Claim 3, which depends from claim 1, recites an IVR. Therefore, it is not clear to one of ordinary skill the scope of claim 1, as a user interacting with Applicant's system via IVR does not "view" information. Claims 13 and 15 are also rejected as they recite language similar to claims 1 and 3, respectively. In addition, claims 1 and 13 recite "direct donation to the selected recipient", while claims 4 and 16, which depend from claims 1 and 16, respectively, recite "financial institutions" for facilitating donations to a recipient. Therefore, it is not clear to one of ordinary skill what the Applicant means by "direct".

Claims 2-12 and 14-24 are also rejected as they depend from claims 1 and 13, respectively.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1, 4, 5, 13, 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Gruber et al., US Patent Application Publication 2002/0029179.

As per claims 1, 4, 5, 13, 16 and 17, Gruber et al. teach a system for direct donation comprising:

- server accessible by potential donors (figure 1)
- data store accessible to the server and storing information about potential recipients pre-qualified for donations (figures 1, 2, and 8-10)
- software suite enabling a donor to view information about recipients and enabling a donor to make a donation to the selected recipient (figures 2 and 8-10)

- setting up accounts for donors and recipients interacting with a financial institution for crediting a recipient account and debiting a donor account (figures 5 and 6)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 14, 15, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gruber et al., US Patent Application Publication 2002/0029179.

As per claims 2 and 14, Gruber et al. teach a system for making donations over the internet (figures 1, 2 and 8-10). Gruber et al. also teach displaying recipients (figures 3 and 5), "clicking on a recipient" (figure 3), and learning more about a recipient at a recipient's webpage (page 3, paragraph 37). Hypertext and hyperlinks are old and well known. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to construct a web document where a user can click on a recipient and be transferred to a webpage where a user can learn more about the selected recipient.

As per claims 3 and 15, Gruber et al. teach a system for making donations over the internet (figures 1, 2 and 8-10). Specifically, users interacting with the Gruber et al. system communicate with a server (figure 1; page 2, paragraph 33). A well-known method for connecting with a server is via IVR.

As per claims 6, 7, 18 and 19, Gruber et al. teach a system for making donations over the internet (figures 1, 2, and 8-10). Gruber et al. also teach setting up accounts for donors and recipients and interacting with a financial institution for crediting a recipient account and debiting a donor account (figures 5 and 6). Regarding viewing accounts, once a client as set-up an account with a financial institution, such as a bank, it is well-known that said client has access to said account. Gruber et al. disclose tax-exempt entities such as charities and nonprofit organizations (page 3, paragraphs 33 and 36). In order to qualify as "tax-exempt", an organization must file with the IRS to determine eligibility under 501(c)(3). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to make this information available to donors on the recipient's webpage in order to encourage said donor to make donations (page 3, paragraphs 36 and 37)

9. Claims 8-12 and 20-24, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gruber et al., US Patent Application Publication 2002/0029179 and Cohen, U.S. Patent No. 6,422,462.

As per claims 8-12 and 20-24, Gruber et al. teach a system for making donations over the internet (figures 1, 2 and 8-10). It is well known to those of ordinary skill in charitable giving and charitable organizations to donate monetary and non-monetary gifts. However, Gruber et al. do not specifically recite redeemable documents associated with an identity for redeeming a donation. Cohen teaches a system for creating redeemable and non-transferable cards comprising creating virtual identities for a recipient which must be associated with the redeemable card to implement redemption (abstract; column 3, lines 18-27; column/line 3/55-4/11; column 5, lines 10-16; column/line 7/65-8/57; column 10, 4-13; column/line 11/57-12/15; column 13, lines 38-62). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to combine the teachings of Gruber et al. and Cohen in order to prevent an organization from using a donor's gift in a manner other unauthorized by the donor ('462, column/line 7/65-8/58).

Conclusion

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- Perrone teaches voice control of a server using IVR
- Burke teaches an automatic system for making contributions

- Gruber et al. teach a method and system for fundraising comprising educating potential donors on an organization seeking donations
- Shade et al. teach a method and system for charitable giving

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Calvin Loyd Hewitt II whose telephone number is (703) 308-8057. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, James P. Trammell, can be reached at (703) 305-9768.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
c/o Technology Center 2100
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 305-7687 (for formal communications intended for entry and after-final communications),

or:

(703) 746-5532 (for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park 5,
2451 Crystal Drive, 7th Floor Receptionist.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application
should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)
308-1113.

Calvin Loyd Hewitt II

January 26, 2005



JAMES P. TRAMMELL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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